

considerable tact. The peculiar and somewhat distrustful nature of the Indian, his wandering habits of life, his ignorance and superstition, and the vices he has learned from his white brethren, are some of the difficulties to be met. These and others all combine to make results appear slowly.

Still so far we have no room for discouragement. We have only been about three months on the ground, and have scarcely had time to do more than get fairly started. We lost no time in establishing regular services at different points on the reserve, and the interest manifested in these is very gratifying. The attendance at all of the stations is pretty regular, and at the principal station numbers some Sabbaths, including children, as many as seventy. We hope also, so soon as the school children are a little further advanced, to be able to organize at least one Sabbath school.

Mr. McVicar, who is associated with me as interpreter, teaches the day school, and is doing good work. There are at present twenty-nine pupils on the roll. The attendance is regular; some weeks the average being as high as twenty-seven. Six of these children we have taken to live with us in our own home, and as the Mission House is not very commodious, only containing two apartments altogether, you will perhaps wonder how we get along. We are somewhat straitened at times for room, but we were very anxious for these children to have the benefit of the school, and as they live too far away to attend, we had either to take them in or allow them to remain away altogether. At present we have very little accommodation, but we hope that before long our condition in this respect will be improved. Our aim is to have boarding accommodation for at least thirty children. There are at least twenty who might have been at school this summer if we could have housed and looked after them. In another year, however, we hope to be in a position to gather them all in. Mrs. Laird visits the school once a week, more especially for the purpose of teaching the girls sewing and knitting. She is pleased with the progress they are making. She intends now opening similar classes at the Mission House for the women, as the W. F. M. S., of Winnipeg, has very kindly supplied a quantity of yarn, cotton and some other things.

The boxes you are preparing will be most welcome. Our Indians are not by any means well off. They have not yet succeeded in growing much grain. When they have made the attempt it has been damaged with summer frosts, but their root crops this year are good. No doubt they are shiftless and wasteful in their habits, and to this, more than to the failure of their crops, may be attributed the fact that they are often without the